

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/888,096

Examiner

Li B. Zhen

Applicant(s)

WENZL, LAUREN B.

Art Unit

2194

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 02/21/2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-12.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date 5/10/06.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.


WILLIAM THOMSON
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1 – 12 are pending in the application.
2. Formal drawings submitted on 02/21/2006 and 06/22/2001 have been accepted by the examiner.

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

3. On May 10, 2006, examiner contacted applicant's representative, Mr. Justin Liu, and noted that the claims are allowable over the art of record; however, claim 12 (line 5) recites the limitation "the second device" which lacks antecedent basis. Applicant authorizes examiner to amend the limitation to recite "a second device" in an examiner's amendment.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

4. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Justin Liu (Reg. No. 51,959) on May 10, 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

- a. Claim 12, line 5, replace "in the second device" with -- in a second device --.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art does not expressly teach or render obvious the invention as recited in independent claims 1, 8 and 12.

The prior art teaches an host device with a configurable hardware interface that includes a programmable logic device [col. 4, line 16 – col. 5, line 17 of Chang] and storage for storing bitstreams that configures the first configurable hardware interface to implement a driver [col. 6, lines 21 – 46 of Chang] and a peripheral device [col. 4, lines 16 – 32 of Chang] with a configurable hardware interface [col. 5, lines 18 – 30 of Chang] and a programmable logic device [col. 5, lines 18 – 29 of Chang]. However, the prior art does not teach that both the host and peripheral devices having pluralities of bitstreams available for configuring the programmable logic devices. Further, the prior art does not teach checking whether the host device have the bitstream that corresponds to a driver for the peripheral device, configuring the programmable logic device of the host device if the bitstream is found, otherwise, directing the host device to request a bitstream from the peripheral device and retrieving the bitstream from the peripheral device.

In addition, the prior art of record does not provide a basis of evidence for asserting a motivation that one of ordinary skill level in the art at the time the invention was made would have integrated or modified the configurable hardware interfaces of the host and peripheral devices to both include bitstreams for configuring the programmable logic devices to result in a configurable hardware interface as recited in the context of the independent claims.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably

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accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

CONTACT INFORMATION


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Li B. Zhen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3768. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, William Thomson can be reached on 571-272-3718. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Li B. Zhen
Examiner
Art Unit 2194

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SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER